

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-06 VO-03 PRS-01 SCA-01 CIAE-00

FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 INR-07 PA-01 /032 R

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----- 041481

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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JOINT STATE/USIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, CSCE, PFOR, UR, US (HOPKINS, MARK)

SUBJECT: HOPKINS VISA CASE

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 18626; (B) STATE 288914; (C) STATE288331

EMBASSY MAY DRAW FROM FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE:

1. Q: IS IT TRUE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED
VOA CORRESPONDENT MARK HOPKINS A VISA?

2. A: ON OCT. 20 HOPKINS ARRIVED IN MOSCOW WITH A VISA
VALID FOR A STAY UNTIL OCTOBER 23, AND HE WAS REFUSED
AN EXTENSION OF HIS STAY. HE THEN RETURNED TO THE FRG,
WHERE HE IS STATIONED, AND APPLIED IN EARLY NOVEMBER
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FOR A VISA TO VISIT MOSCOW AGAIN. TO DATE HE HAS NOT BEEN

GRANTED A VISA.

3. Q: IS THE DEPARTMENT RETALIATING IN ANY WAY?

4. A: WE STILL EXPECT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO GRANT HOPKINS A VISA, BUT I CAN SAY THAT WE APPROACH THESE MATTERS STRICTLY ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS.

5. Q: WHY DOES HOPKINS WANT TO GO TO MOSCOW AT THIS

TIME?

6. A: TO REPORT ON THE US BICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT IN MOSCOW, AND ALSO FOR GENERAL NEWS GATHERING. IN THE PAST HE HAS VISITED MOSCOW REGULARLY.

7. Q: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ABOUT THE SOVIET FAILURE TO GRANT HIM A VISA?

8. A: WE BELIEVE IT IS A SERIOUS MATTER, AND WE HAVE RAISED IT WITH THE SOVIETS IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. WE HOPE AND EXPECT THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL GRANT HIM THE VISA IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

9. Q: HAS THE DEPARTMENT REFUSED ANY SOVIET JOURNALISTS VISAS RECENTLY?

10. A: NOT RECENTLY. ROBINSON

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